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Prologue

It was a dark night. Birdflight ran up to her den and went to sleep. She thought of disasters outside the forest that might be coming. She thought that she might die. Alot was on the small medicine cats mind but that didn't stop her. She knew that she had to do her best but not be the best. She was all alone in that den waiting till morning when she heard someone screaming her name. It was Sorrelflair! Something was wrong and she didn't know what it was. "Sorrelflair what's happened?" I ask, but she doesn't answer. The look on her face meant to me that her kit, Mousekit, was either gone or, or dead! The words finally came out of her mouth when she said, "I haven't seen him since supper, I'm worried sick about my baby. Can you please find him or atleast help ME find him?" When I say yes her whole entire face brightens up. As we're heading out of camp I turn my head and keep walking.

Chapter 1

The air was cold that night as Birdflight and Sorrelflair spent looking for Mousekit. He was going to become an apprentice the next day so it meant a lot to us. We needed to find him quickly because it was already sun-high. Everyone was probably already wondering where they've gone or what they're doing. I tried telling Sorrelflair that he's probably playing a trick on us and that he's already back home, but she didn't listen. I kept telling myself the same thing as well, but I didn't believe it either. "This is hopeless," I say. "Let's go home, Sorrelflair. Everyone is probably looking for us and you know how that's like." "You're right. Let's go home." Sorrelflair says with a sigh. As we walked home we stopped to fetch some fresh-kill. When we arrived home we went to tell our leader, Rabbitstar. Rabbitstar was a great leader but also a bit overwhelming at times. As we walked into her den, we sat down. Then she asked us what we needed. We said" Mousekit has gone missing! We were out looking all night but he's gone. I'm afraid I'll never see him again!" "It's ok, Sorrelflair, we'll find him and we'll bring him home and back to you. Now, is that all?" As we flicked our tails she said "good, I'll set a evening patrol for Mousekit. We can't leave him behind leaf-bare has almost arrived." As she flicked her tail for us to leave her den, we went over to the nursery for one last check to see if Mousekit was there. As we looked we found nothing. "Where has he gone!" Sorrelflair yells. "All I did was look away for a minute and he was gone," the look on her face told me that she was depressed. So was I, but I didn't let it show.

As dawn drew by the sun was already set and the evening patrol found nothing of Mousekit. Sorrelflair was in her den wailing like a kit in distress. I wanted to help but couldn't. Then it hit me. I was treating Mousekit from death berries. Then I fell asleep. I went to my den and searched and found Mousekit. I carried him in his scruff and brought him to Sorrelflair. "Mommy! Where were you! I was scared," "where was he?" I told her the story that I was treating him and fell asleep. Sorrelflair looked at me with a grin and laughed. I was relieved that Mousekit was ok, and that Sorrelflair wasn't mad at me at all!

All was good that night. I slept like an angel. I saw a white shadow and looked closer. "Who are you?" I ask. "You don't remember me? I am your mother, Featherstring." Then, the image began to fade away and I woke up. I kept asking myself why my mother was in my dream. Then it came to me. My mom was trying to tell me an omen. I tried going back to sleep but the image had gone. I woke up the next morning feeling drowsy of sleep and hunger. I fled to the fresh-kill pile and noticed it was empty. Then I also noticed blood and bodies flooding all around camp. Then I woke. Everything was normal. The camp was busy, the fresh-kill pile was filled of prey, and the kits and apprentices were play fighting. All is good I thought. It was just just a dream. No, a nightmare. No, an omen. I walked up to the fresh-kill pile and grabbed myself a nice juicy vole. I overheard Squirreleye and Speckelfoot gossiping about other clans and twolegs. I saw Penguinwing and Fernleaf sharing-tongues. I thought to myself that they'd be a great couple one day. I go to the apprentices den to find Owlpaw still sleeping until I nudge him with my front paw. His eyes open wide and asks "what's wrong? Is there an attack? I'm tired," I say no and he follows me to twoleg place to get more herbs for camp. I even test him on them on our way back and on our way there. I tell him he did a fabulous job. He then feels warm inside by the praise. "Now, can I go back to sleep. Please!" I say yes and he hurries off. Wingflight comes up to me and says "want to go hunting with me? I'll be in the nursery soon so it's important I get to know you. Also, I want to get out of camp while I can," "sure," I say "let me just grab Owlpaw and we can go, actually he's having his warrior ceremony soon so I'll let him sleep, let's get going." As Wingflight and I head out of camp I trip over a metallic thing and I pass out.

I wake up and Owlpaw is treating me with herbs. Then I realize that I'm not in my camp. I was taken by twolegs. They have invaded our camp and took me for bait. I can barely stand when a baby twoleg picks me up and cuddles with me. I see a dog a start to shiver. After what happened with Froststar and those scary dogs, they took her last life. Then, the dog talks to me. "Hi, my name is Corey. Don't worry I'll get you out of here. So what's your name?" "Ummm. My name is Birdflight." I say while shivering. Then the dog comforts me. I'm not exactly feeling scared anymore. Why is this dog so nice? I ask myself.

Back in camp everyone is searching for the lost medicine cat who appears to be either lost or dead. Owlpaw is wailing like he's still a little kit. "Where is she. I'm scared! Who's next? Me, Sorrelflair, mommy? I want Birdflight!" Everyone is freaking out. Then Owlpaw hears the barking of a close by dog. "Ahhhhhh. A dog!" Wails Fernleaf. I was scared at that moment because my sister was dead. My mentor was lost or dead and my dad was who knows where! All I needed to do was stay silent and hide. Then a shadowy figure appeared but it wasn't Birdflight. It was Hawkstar.

Chapter 2

[image]

Hawkstar eyed everyone in the camp and then he jumped at me. Owlpaw scrambled on the ground with Hawkstar. Hawkstar would not let go. He was no match for him but he held on. Owlpaw was on the ground laying very still and unmoving. Then Hawkstar jumped up at Sorrelflair and she then scrambled on the ground with Hawkstar. Hawkstar bit her in the neck and Mousekit jumped up on Hawkstar and nibbled on his ear. Hawkstar easily threw him off.

Sorrelflair also lay on the ground unmoving. Rabbitstar stood in front of Hawkstar now. "You may leave our camp at once!" Rabbitstar yowled. "I will not leave until I get what I want!" Hawkstar commanded. "And when I get what I want," there was a long pause. "I will rule the forest and become the ruler of them all. No twoleg, cat, or dog will get in my way!" "What if you don't get what you want?" Rabbitstar mewed "what if you die before you get the chance?" "Yeah like that'll ever be the case. Ha ha ha, you make me laugh, now get out of my way!" Hawkstar scowled.

He shoved Rabbitstar away and hurried to the elders. "He's tearing apart our clan!" Squirreleye wailed. "He's taking over!" Mewed Speckelfoot. "Help us all," mewed Volehair. Rabbitstar threw a heavy glance at Hawkstar and threw herself at him. The two of them were wobbling around on the ground spitting vigorously. Hissing and growling the two of them broke apart. Hawkstar left while spitting curses at Rabbitstar and the rest of PreyClan. "This isn't the last of me!" Hawkstar hissed. "I'll be back!" He spat.

That night the rain made Sorrelflairs body even more disappointing! The night went cold and frost started to form. At the twoleg place, Birdflight began her journey with Corey and started to climb the mountains back home. Corey began to warm up to Birdflight. Birdflight felt at home with him. As Birdflight went through the gorse tunnel, she said a warm goodbye to Corey. Birdflight saw Sorrelflair and started to wail like a kit. Birdflight and Sorrelflair were brother and sister. They weren't exactly twins, though.

That night Birdflight didn't sleep at all. He couldn't even try! He woke up the next morning with all he could hear were wailing from a kit, Mousekit! Poor Mousekit I feel so bad for him! Without a mother! When I went outside I didn't see Sorrelflair! "Sorrelflair!" I screeched. Then I heard her say "what's wrong?" And I yelled in Fright! "I.. I thought you were gone!" I snapped. Then I heard a distant growl and everything went black..

chapter 3

[image]

I could just hear the screaming and hissing of the other cats fighting around me. I joined in the fight and scrambled on the ground with a cat she's never seen. She was a pale ginger she-cat by the looks of it. I gave her a few scratches but she held on I was yowling in pain as she scratched me on my belly. She went for my throat but I backed away from her. Then, she pounced on me for a second time and I yowled for a second time. I thought, this was the end. I was too weak, she went at my neck for the second time.

I laid on the ground for a few moments. The most part that hurt was my heart because I was getting stabbed in as we all fought. I knew I would die at some point but I didn't know when. I knew that they wouldn't leave until everyone was dead. They would leave our clan with nothing left of it. Then, I opened my eyes. I heard the Battle screeches then I saw the ginger she-cat who fought me, running out of camp while leaving a trail of blood along with her. I heard many yowls and wails. Many other RageClan cats were heading out and that meant that we won the battle even though some of us were probably dead. I saw a body laying by the fresh-kill pile and for a second I didn't know who it was. Then I noticed it was Scarface. Oh no. I yowled. When I saw the lifeless body, I started to wail. Scarface had been her mom. Her dad had died when she was a kit. The only one left was Sorrelflair.

We had the ceremony for Scarface as soon as we all could. I slept next to her along with Sorrelflair.

The next morning, Birdflight went to talk to Rabbitstar. "I'd like Owlpaw to become a warrior." Rabbitstar nodded and mewed "ok." Rabbitstar walked outside and onto the high rock and called everyone over, "everyone old enough to catch their own prey, please gather beneath the high rock for a clan meeting," Rabbitstar howled. Owlpaw was sitting up front not knowing what was happening. Until Rabbitstar called to their warrior ancestors, Silverpelt. "Young Owlpaw has learned the ways of your nobel code and is fit to become a warrior. From now on, Owlpaw you will now be known as Owlstride. Clan meeting is adjourned." The whole clan

started to chant his new name "Owlstride, Owlstride, Owlstride." He felt so happy and surprised. "Thank you so much, Birdflight." "No problem little guy. Tomorrow we're going to Highstones. You will then share- tongues with Silverpelt." "Yay ok!"

The next morning, Birdflight nudged Owlstride in the tummy and he woke. "So, how do you like your new den?" Birdflight mews, "I love it. It's way more comfortable." "Let's go, we'll meet Bluefeather and her apprentice there also." "Ok, Birdflight. Let's go." As they walk near RageClan they see Bluefeather and Herbpaw. We have to walk very close to RageClan because it's the quickest way to go.

As we're walking through the tunnel toward the Moonstone, Bluefeather mews, "How's camp? Anything going on that's bad?" I answer with "no, why?" "Never mind then." When we reach the Moonstone we give Herbpaw and Owlstride the instructions they need to use for the Moonstone. Owlstride lays down and touches his muzzle against the stone, and then he falls asleep. A silver shadow sweeps by she looks familiar. "Do you remember me? Dear Owlstride, I am your mother. Listen closely dear. Great danger is coming to the forest. Only two cats may stop it and you and him are one. This danger may affect your clan and the forest. Everyone is at risk." Then, the shadow began to fade away. Before I woke up I saw another cat. Spottedmaple! I thought. She was Birdflight's mentor when she was alive. Hawkstar killed her. At the time Hawkstar was Hawkblaze. The whole clan suffered at the death. "Good luck young one." Then he woke

Owlstride tried so hard not to tell anyone about the prophecy, but he couldn't. "Hey, Herbpaw. Guess what. Great danger is coming and two cats will defeat it. Wanna join?" "Sure, why not." As the two cats talked among themselves, Birdflight and Bluefeather were talking about the trouble with twolegs. At that moment Birdflight caught a horrible scent. "Fox!" Birdflight howled.

Chapter 4

[image]

The stench drew closer and closer. Birdflight saw a flash of red and screeched. "Everyone down!" Bluefeather yowled. I looked closer and saw a flash of red eyes. I looked over at Owlstride and he was protecting Herbpaw. I did the same with Bluefeather but she backed away. Silverpelt help us! I prayed. The body of the fox glared at us. It's eyes burning into mine. "Hi," I said while shivering. "Sorry, we're just passing through, don't mind us," Birdflight meowed. He heard a deep, furious growl from the fox. The four of them ran back to their camps. The fox then started to follow Birdflight and Owlstride.

When they got back to camp a fox then appeared in the gorse tunnel. The whole clan was battling with grief as they remembered Scarface. Scarface had died trying to save her clan from Hawkstar. I saw Owlstride defeating the fox. The fox then flew Owlstride over and cut his belly. Owlstride was laying very still. Then the fox bit his tail. The fox cut his eye and gave him a scar. Then, Herbpaw and Bluefeather arrived. They were there to help! I jumped up at the fox and bit him in the neck the fox flew backwards and flew out the gorse tunnel. We all spat curses at the fox. I looked down and saw Owlstride. I picked him up by his scruff and brought him to my den. I looked at him for a bit. Then I gave him a bunch of cobwebs. I also gave him some seeds to sooth the pain. I laid him down on the moss and gave him some warm tried grass as a blanket. Then I gathered some weeds and a leaf for an eye patch. Then, I left him to sleep for a while until he was good enough to go back into the Warriors den. I went to see Sorrelflair and asked her when Mousekit was going to be named an apprentice? She mewed "tonight at dawn,"

"Everyone old enough to catch their own prey please gather beneath the high rock for a clan meeting," Rabbitstar announced. Everyone joined and Rabbitstar mewed "Mousekit is now six moons and is responsible to become an apprentice, Mousekit," "yes, Rabbitstar?" "Do you promise to uphold the duties of being an apprentice?" "I do," announced Mousekit. "Then from now on you will be known as Mousepaw," Everyone started to chant his name.

"Mousepaw, Mousepaw, Mousepaw." He felt amazing. Birdflight was treating Owlstride again and giving him some more poppy seeds for the pain. She also put cobwebs over his eye. I walked over to the fresh-kill and grabbed a mouse. I sat next to Owlstride and sat the mouse down and walked away. I have given the mouse to Owlstride because he was hurt and when he woke he'd be hungry. Penguinwing walked up to me with Fernleaf and asked me to look at her. I brought her into my den and laid her down. She was coughing alot but no sneezing occurred. I gave her poppy seeds and found out that she was going to be nursing. I mewed "Fernleaf, your pregnant." She was so happy. The look on Penguinwing's face told me that he was worried and excited all at the same time. I could tell that Penguinwing's stomach felt weird. I directed Fernleaf to the nursery and laid her down. Penguinwing was with her all night. He wouldn't go on patrols or go hunting.

Today was the first gathering. Rabbitstar picked out six others to go with her. She picked, Volehair, Owlstride, Wingflight, Penguinwing, Sorrelflair, and Bluepaw. As they walked down the slope toward fourtrees they stopped and snuck slowly past RageClan and the other clans. When they got there, Rabbitstar jumped on to the great rock. RageClan was the last to arrive. Rabbitstar spoke first. "Hello everyone. We've been attacked by a fox but have recovered. The twolegs we just found out have been poisoning the mice on our border. We have proof that RageClan has been stealing voles from our camp. That is against the code and you should accept that, Hawkstar. Two of our warriors have become queens. That is all, Flightstar?" "Thank you, Rabbitstar. Everything is fine in camp. We also have proof that RageClan is stealing prey from us! This is outrageous! We are all starving while your cats are breaking the code of Silverpelt!" Then Nightstar began to speak. " Cats of all clans our medicine cat, Brooksilt has received a sign from Silverpelt. Brooksilt may you speak of it." "The sign was of bunny fur and vole was leading toward the gorge and blood was everywhere in sunningrocks," Brooksilt meowed. "Thank you Brooksilt! You may speak now, Shadestar," As Shadestar spoke, there was murmurs in the crowd. " Thank you, Nightstar. All we have to say is may Silverpelt be with you all!" "All the fish in the river has been poisoned! All the twolegs are sleeping in our territory! We can't live anymore. There's nothing left of our forest," Silkstar mewed. "Greetings fellow cats. Grassflower, a queen has

been murdered BY PreyClan! We've found bluefur near her body!" Just then, Hawkstar pounced at Rabbitstar and the moon was then covered but the stars. The gathering has ended! All the clans were heading home. Owlstride could hear battle screeches near camp and hurried off toward the gorse tunnel. The rest followed. All they could see was blood. A voice behind Owlstride startled him. "We meet again, Owlstride."

Chapter 5

[image]

The voice scared Owlstride but it scared the rest of them as well. It was a cat but no cat from any clan. It was Scourge! "I thought we killed you!" Owlstride scowled. "Your supposed to be dead!" Volehair hissed. Scourge didn't listen he just threw himself at Volehair and the two of them spat vigorously. I also saw Bone in the crowd. He was in camp fighting Fernleaf! I almost threw myself at him when I saw Penguinwing flying toward Bone. I prayed to Silverpelt that this would be over but they didn't even have the power to control BloodClan. BloodClan was the most deadly and most powerful clan in the world. Not even RageClan could defeat them.

I glanced up at Scourge and threw myself at him and Volehair let go of him. There was a few moments in life when you would risk your life for your family and that was what I did that day. I gave up my life for my clan. My clan was where I died. I hunt Silverpelt now, and that's where I belong.

I woke the next morning, drowsy. I barely slept since BloodClan came back into the forest. I had an omen that I had died but I don't think it's true. It could've just been a nightmare. I hopped up and down the soft ground as I made my way to the fresh-kill pile. I then grabbed myself a nice juicy rabbit. I made my way to Rabbitstar's den and walked inside. She flicked her tail for me to sit. "What is it young warrior?" She mewed. "We need patrols! We haven't heard or seen anything strange since BloodClan arrived. Our prey is running low, and the borders need to be protected," I growled. "That is none of your concern!" Rabbitstar hissed back. She flicks her tail for me to leave but I don't move. "Don't you care that your clan is falling apart!" I hissed. "Don't you care that BloodClan might destroy us!" There was a long pause between the two cats. "I know what I'm doing!" Rabbitstar growled back. She then flicked her tail again and I fled through the den. I asked Volehair what I should do but he said "ask Rabbitstar," "I can't, I've already tried and it didn't work," "well I don't know what to tell you. Looks like this is the way it's gonna have to be, Owlstride!" Volehair hissed. I back away to

Birdflight's den and he says the same thing, but nicer. I go to my den and fall asleep. I'm lost, I tell myself. I don't know what to do with myself anymore. Its hopeless!

I wake up the next morning thinking, wait! Mousepaw never got a mentor! I need to tell Rabbitstar! I head to her den and explain. Then she calls a quick clan meeting. "Cats of PreyClan, you know that Mousekit is now Mousepaw, but we never gave him his mentor. Mousepaw, your mentor will be Volehair. This clan meeting is adjourned." We all go to our separate ways and we all grab some fresh-kill. I tell Mousepaw a great job and he scowls at me. I don't know why he does that but it startled me! I walk over to Volehair and mew"good morning, Volehair. How's training going?" "Very well, thank you. Mousepaw is amazing!" "Do you know why he scowled at me?" I mewed. "No, he was probably mad that Rabbitstar forgot about his mentor. You're fine, Owlstride." Volehair meowed. I back away and ask Mousepaw why he was so mad, "why didn't Rabbitstar give me my mentor earlier? Thanks to you I actually got one!" I skidded away and went hunting with Wingflight. She would be in the nursery soon so she needed to get out. I showed how how I caught a hawk. I could tell she was impressed. I saw her catch a big adder. I admire her, I thought. Does she feel the same? I don't know but I tend to find out. I lick her ear and she rubs against my flank. Then, we touch muzzles.

On our way back we were very close to each other. All the others stared in astonishment as they saw us together. I prey to Silverpelt as I mewed thank you. We put down our fresh-kill down and head toward the warriors den. It was almost sundown when we fell asleep, next to each other. I mewed "I love you, Wingflight." She mewes "I love you too, Owlstride." The the night went silent and we fell asleep.

Chapter 6

[image]

The air was cold that night. Owlstride slept close to Wingflight. Her body making his feel warm and cozy.

"What happened!" I yowled. Wingflight was choking and coughing. She passed out and started to sneeze and cough in her dream. " I'm so sorry, Owlstride, but Wingflight has black cough. That's the deadliest sickness there has ever been!" I started wailing like a kit. My mate would die, and it would be all my fault! Birdflight tried to comfort me but I slid away through the gorse and towards twoleg- place. "Why now! Why me!" I wailed. "This is mouse-dung!" I scowled. Black cough spread quickly! I thought. If Wingflight died, I'd die with her! Everyday someone either dies or gets sick! I'm sick of it. We need to do something! I thought. I soon saw Bluefeather and Herbpaw coming close to me. " Hey, Owlstride!" Herbpaw meowed. "Have you heard what's happened in our clan?" I shake my head no " Hawkstar killed Sharpclaw!" I couldn't believe it! " He did?" "Yeah! I'm scared! Can we live with you?" I say no and he dips his head in goodbye. "Actually, sure why not!" Really?" "Yeah, I'll bring you to Rabbitstar right now!" "Yay!"

"No!" Rabbitstar snarled. "They're RageClan cats! They'll always be RageClan cats! End of discussion!" She flicked her tail and we skidded out of her den. "I'm so sorry, Herbpaw. I thought she would!" "It's ok." He mewed through tiny wails.

I walked them to they end of our border and let them go. They said their goodbyes and fled through the mountains. I go home in silence. I walk through the gorse of our camp. I head to Birdflight's den and sleep near Wingflight. "I'm so sorry this happened to you! I miss you! Please get better." I prey to Silverpelt! Silverpelt, please, help Wingflight. She's the love of my life and the only one I will ever love! Please help her! I fell asleep late that night. The air was cold and I could see my breath. I told myself that she would survive. Why wouldn't She get better? He asked himself.

Then next morning, Owlstride went to fetch some fresh-kill for him and Wingflight. She was barely awake so he thought it would be good to leave the fresh-kill next to her head. It would help if she

could smell it so she'd wake up and have a few bites. I grabbed a crow for Wingflight, and a adder for me. I went on the morning patrol with Volehair and Penguinwing. No apprentices came because it was dangerous. Also, we needed some cats to guard camp from Hawkstar and BloodClan.

The day was here, it's leaf-bare!

Chapter 7

Leaf-bare ran cold. The nights were filled with sorrow for the death of Wingflight. Her kits survived, though. Owlstride was angry! That was his love. He didn't believe in Silverpelt anymore. Her kits were, Wingkit, Sorrowkit, Featherkit, Stringkit and Larchkit. Owlstride was always around his kits. They had no mother. Nothing was left for him except his little scraps of fur.

Owlstride spent days near the grave of his love. He spent wailing through nights while his kits tried to comfort him. They could now speak a few words. It has been four moons since the death of Wingflight. His kits have never known their mother. He wailed like a kit whenever he thought of her. "Why so soon!" He wailed. "Why so young!" "Our kits will never meet their mother, and it's my fault!" He wailed. "It's ok da da." Sorrowkit mewed. "Yeah, you'll be ok daddy!" Meowed Featherkit. Then I saw Wingkit stomping threw the gorse tunnel. I flew over to my daughter and asked her, "what do you think you're doing, young lady?" "I'm trying to catch prey!" Wingkit snarled. "Ha! You're in trouble!" Stringkit meowed, holding in a mrrow of laughter. "Shut up you mouse-brain!" Wingkit snapped. It was going to last forever until these kits became apprentices! Wingkit, Featherkit, and Sorrowkit were she-cats and Stringkit, and Larchkit were toms. "Daddy, what's that?" Larchkit asked. There was a very tall shadow in the gorse and I yowled "run! Twolegs are invading! Everyone hide!" I grabbed all my kits and flew to Birdflight's den. "Daddy, I'm scared!" Larchkit wailed. "You'll be fine," I meowed. I hoped I was right! "Ahhhhhh! Daddy! Help me!" Wailed Wingkit. I looked out of the den and a twoleg had taken my baby! She must've slipped. I run towards her but the monster went back to the Thunderkit and roars away. I could hear a distant mew and then, it was gone.

Chapter 8

"Hurry! We need to leave! My kit is gone! What will I do if I never see her again!" "You'll find sissy! You can do anything, daddy!" Meowed Featherkit. Volehair and I hurried out of camp and followed the horrible stench. "This way!" Volehair howled. We fled through the reeds as we lost the scent. "Where'd it go?" I mewed. Then, I picked it's scent again. It led to a small twoleg place. I snuck through an open window and saw a twoleg feeding a dog! I was horrified as I saw my daughter laying in a bed licking another cats fur! I jumped through the window and grabbed her by the scruff. "Let's go!" I scowled! She tugged and tugged but I fled out the window. We ran in silence until we arrived at camp. I sent her to her den and she did as told. She didn't even say hi to her siblings. I went to sleep in the Warriors den. Having children is such a hard job. I told myself.

I fell asleep, still thinking of how much I loved and miss Wingflight. I woke up the next morning hearing yowls of pain from Fernleaf.

"One kit, two kit, and three kit." Oh my Silverpelt! Fernleaf had three kits! That's amazing! She had two toms and a she-cat. She named them, Spottedkit, Sandkit, and Frostkit.

Frostkit and Sandkit were the she-cats and Spottedkit was the tom."They're beautiful!" I meowed

Chapter 9

The kits ran around crazy for the few days of being born. They were already about one moon. There was only one more moon until my babies became apprentices! I was a bit scared at that thought.

It was a moon since Fernleaf's kits were born. "Everyone old enough to catch their own prey, please gather here for a clan meeting." Rabbitstar yowled. Sorrowkit, Featherkit, Wingkit, Stringkit, and Larchkit gathered in front of the high rock. "Cats of Silverpelt, we gather here to give these five kits their mentors! They have aged to six moons and have earned the right to become apprentices. Wingkit, you will now be known as, Wingpaw. Larchkit, you will now be known as, Larchpaw..." When she was done with their names she gave them their mentors." Sorrelflair you will mentor Wingpaw. I will mentor Larchpaw. Owlstride, you will mentor Featherpaw. Penguinwing, you will mentor Stringpaw, and Volehair, you will mentor Sorrowpaw. This clan meeting is adjourned."

The stars were beautiful that night. "Hey daddy, have you seen Sorrowpaw? She left after the clan meeting. I haven't seen her since!" "She's gone!"

Chapter 10

I lay near the gorge watching the water rush under the frozen ice. I saw my reflection in the slowly passing water. I let out a low deep growl deep in my throat! "They don't care for me anymore!" I scowled. "All of my other brothers and sisters got great mentors, and I got stuck with the traitor!" Sorrowpaw growled. Then at once she heard her name being called. "Sorrowpaw, Sorrowpaw!" It was my sister, Birdpaw! "Birdpaw!" I ran to her sweet scent and saw my father, Owlstride there as well. "Oh, hi daddy." I mumbled. "Fancy seeing you here," I growled. "Rabbitstar is dieing! And your to busy taking a night walk!" "Rabbitstar is dieing!" I asked.

We walk back to camp and find cats mourning, and some others were laying down and whining. "What's wrong?" I yowl, "we're to late," Owlstride mewed with his head hung low. I wailed and didn't stop. "May all cats old enough to catch their own prey, please gather here beneath the high rock for a clan meeting!" Volehair yowled. It just wasn't the same, I thought. "As you all know, our leader has died, which makes me leader once I make the journey to Highstones. I need to make my deputy but I will do that at sunset. This meeting is adjourned!" Everyone walked away from Volehair and did their usual things. I went over with Birdpaw and grabbed some fresh-kill. I grabbed myself a plump rabbit, and grabbed Birdpaw a magpie. I wondered how Rabbitstar died but then I remembered her loud coughing and sneezing and then all go silent. Did she have green- cough? Or Black-Cough? Or maybe white cough? I didn't know! Silverpelt, please don't let anyone else suffer! You may not be listening to me but if you are, please help the forest, every clan is suffering! Please help, thank you, Amen.

Volehair was heading out of camp as I padded up to him. "Volehair, when are you calling the clan meeting?" I wondered. "Later, be good and let your dad relax," "yeah, like that'll ever happen!" We both let out a mrrow of laughter. "Hey, Sorrowpaw! My apprentice ceremony is at dawn! Im so happy! So, what're you doing?" "Hey Thunderpaw! I'm just standing here." Thunderpaw let out a mrrow of laughter, and I joined in. He licked my left ear and I rest my fur against his flank! "I'm gonna go grab some fresh-kill,

want some, Thunderpaw?" "Sure, thanks. I'll be in the den, see you there!" I walk over to the fresh-kill and grab myself a magpie and a rabbit for Thunderpaw.

I woke up a little later with a gnash on my shoulder. What happened here, I wondered. *Cough, cough* that was Wingpaw.

"May all cats old enough to catch their own prey, please gather here beneath the high rock for a clan meeting! As you all know, I'm the new leader and I need a deputy! This cat has been a loyal friend and has lost many! My new deputy will be Sorrelflair...

Chapter 11

Sorrelflair had a look of happiness as well as sadness! She thought of many others she thought would be great deputies. Like her first love, Owlstride.

"Great job, mommy!" Thunderpaw yowled. "Yeah, great job mommy! You did so well. Love you!" Ashpaw meowed. Suddenly, Sorrelflair felt happier! All that she feared was coming to an end. "We're being attacked! Everyone get down!" I saw a bullet shoot through the air and heard a yowl of pain coming from Volehair. "No!" I growled. I jumped up at the twoleg and bit it's neck. The twoleg twisted and turned but I hung my claws in place. I scratched his hand and then he picked me up and threw me on the ground. "No!" Owlstride yowled. "Mommy!" Ashpaw and Thunderpaw yowled. I saw a flash of movement as I saw Mousepaw spring up a tree and jump on the twoleg. Mousepaw dug his claws into the hand of the twoleg and knocked away the gun.

Sorrelflair lay in the medicine cats den. She was getting treated for cuts all along her flank. Volehair sat next to her. "It was just my paw, I'm ok!" We fell asleep together and I felt warm.

"Mommy, are you ok!" Thunderpaw mewed. "Mommy!" Ashpaw wailed. "Daddy, will mommy be ok?" Mousepaw whined. "Yes, your mother will be fine. Now, all of you back to sleep it's nearly sun-high!" "Ok, daddy!" They all meowed. The sound of their prodding paw steps, getting fainter soothed Volehair.

"She's awake!" I heard Birdflight yowl. Practically the whole clan came in. I could hear yowls of joy! "I told you she'd get better, you mouse-brain!" Ashpaw growled at Stringpaw. "Fernleaf's having another litter!" Birdflight growled. "She had two girls and a boy!" "I'll name them Applekit, Rosekit, and Snowkit!" "Hi, I'm Frostkit! I'm your new sister! This is Sandkit and Spottedkit as well.

"Goodnight, my little scraps of fur!" Fernleaf meowed. "Goodnight mommy!" They all mewed. "***Who are you?" I ask. "I was the leader and mother of your mother. I had to give her up, though. I was the leader of RiverClan but gave her to PreyClan. Her father was from here so I gave her to him. She had a brother and three sisters so I gave them each to different clans. Now, there is a new prophecy***

coming and you need to join with six cats, you being one of them. When you get there, Midnight will tell you all you need to know! I hope to see you soon. Oh, and if you fight with the chosen cats then the prophecy will die. Meet at fourtrees at midnight tomorrow night and I will be there to explain it all. Your waking up! Don't tell anyone about the prophecy!" Then she disappeared.

"No one can get any sleep with you twisting and turning all night!" "Sorry! Spottedkit!" I walked straight towards the gorse and lay near the lake. I daydream about the prophecy.

" A death will show you the way to go follow the signs which will show. Stand on rock at biggest peak and look for horizon of I speak."

"Ahhhhhh!" I yowled. "What's wrong, Frostkit?" Sorrelflair came running up to me with a worried look on her face. "I had a vision, mommy!" "A.. A vision you say honey. What was it about?" "I can't tell you!" I hissed. Mom looked taken back but I didn't care.

I ran to fourtrees and waited for the other five cats to show up. I heard a rustle in the bushes about a tail-length from where I was standing. "Who are you!" I growled. "My name is Herbpaw. I'm from RageClan. Who are you?" " I'm Frostkit from PreyClan." I saw three more cats coming this way. "Who are you guys?" I mewed. "I'm Goldenfoot, a queen of StarClan," "I'm Ashflower of ShadowClan. I'm the deputy," "and I'm Rocksoil of MoonClan." We waited until the last cats came. We saw a flash of movement by a bunch of reeds. "Sorry I'm late! I'm Torchflame of RiverClan."

Hello fellow cats. I am Silverstream. I have brought you all here to share a new prophecy that all of you must uncover. Danger is coming and all of you will have to work as one to complete this prophecy! If any of you fight each other, then the prophecy will die! Midnight will tell you all you need to know. Work together to complete this task and work as one because until you return, you will be. I hope great things from all of you! Do us all proud!"

"What is she talking about?" I mew. " I'll see you guys tomorrow when we leave, ok." Meowed Ashflower. "Tomorrow I'm becoming an apprentice!" I meowed excitedly. "See you tomorrow!" I left and ran to the camp. Everyone was probably asleep by now I thought. I walked to the gorse and ran to the den. "Goodnight mommy! Love you!" I fell asleep.

"Frostkit, we're becoming apprentices today!" Sandkit meowed. I woke instantly. I was so excited about this. We walked outside and

grabbed some fresh-kill. I grabbed a magpie and Sandkit grabbed a bird. Then, instantly, we all heard the familiar call by Volehair. "May all cats old enough to catch their own prey please join here beneath the high rock for a clan meeting!" Volehair yowled. "We have a few things to discuss today. May Frostkit, Sandkit, and Spottedkit please climb up the rock." As they climbed the high rock Volehair spoke again, "Frostkit, you have aged to the point where you can become an apprentice, and both of you have, also. Frostkit, you will now be known as Frostpaw, I hope Silverpelt accepts my choice. Your mentor will be Sorrelflair! Sandkit, you will now be known as Sandpaw, I hope Silverpelt accepts my choice. Your mentor will be me(Volehair!) Spottedkit, you will now be known as Spottedpaw, I hope Silverpelt accepts my choice. Your mentor will be Penguinwing!" The whole clan chanted their names. "Frostpaw! Sandpaw! Spottedpaw!" The whole world had changed that day.

Chapter 12

"Hey, Sorrelflair! Can we *pleas*e go hunting, *now*!" Frostpaw wondered. "Sure, why not," mewed Sorrelflair. I grabbed and nice mouse and headed through the gorse Sorrelflair close behind. "Show me what crouch you'd use to hunt a rabbit." Meowed Sorrelflair. I got down on the ground, paws outstretched and claws gripping the dirt floor. I rushed through the tall grass and was as quite as a blow of wind on my fur. "Perfect! You were outstanding!" Praised Sorrelflair. I was a bit embarrassed by it but I didn't care. "Show me the crouch for hunting a vole, Frostpaw." Mewed Sorrelflair. I laid on the ground without saying a word. My paws were outstretched and my fur lay bristling. I pounced on the vole without a second to spare. "Great job, Frostpaw!"

We walk towards the training hollow and we sit across from each other. "Fight me." Sorrelflair demanded. "Um, OK." I mewed. I pounced and flew behind her, flank bristling. "Hey!" I hissed. "Faster! Don't hesitate." Sorrelflair growled. I pounced a second time, a little faster. I scratched her flank and fell lopsided. "Ow! That hurt." I complained. "Keep trying, I believe in you, Frostpaw." Meowed Sorrelflair. I pounced at her for the last time and pinned her to the ground. "Yay! How'd I do, Sorrelflair?" I mewed. "Amazing! That was perfect!" Praised Sorrelflair. We walked back to camp and I noticed cats rushing towards fourtrees. Oh no! I thought. I quickly slipped away and headed to fourtrees.

"Sorry I was late, guys! I was training." I meowed excitedly. I saw Ashflower, Goldenfoot, Rocksoil, Herbpaw, and Torchflame. "Ready to go, guys?" Asked Rocksoil. "Yup, let's go!" Herbpaw meowed. We headed down the slope near RiverClan. We stopped to hunt a bit and I caught a vole, two mice and a rabbit. We shared a lot of prey during the day. We found shelter early so we settled in. We fell asleep early and we lay in clumps on the soggy moss bedding we found near a clump of ferns.

I woke up with Herbpaw prodding me in the side. "Wake up! Wake up, Frostpaw!" Herbpaw yowled. "What's wrong?" I mewed sleepily. "We should keep continuing our long journey." Meowed Herbpaw. I let out a marrow of laughter. "You woke me up for

that!" We both laughted. Herbpaw and I started to playfully fight along the border. The frozen gorge made me feel safer. We both yowled at the same time, "hunter!" That woke the rest up. "What? Where? Hunter?" Meowed Ashflower. "Its a game!" I growled.

We padded up near snakerocks and heard a distant yowl of alarm. "Herbpaw!" I yowled. "No!" I let out a wail of distress and fell to the ground. "Why!" I wailed. "Why him!"

Chapter 13

Frostpaw stared in horror. Herbpaw watched the falcon taking him away. I jumped on the falcons back and sunk my teeth in to its throat! I heard a snap and the falcon dropped to the ground with a lifeless body. I licked Herbpaws ear and meowed, "don't leave me." We ran through the reeds on the left side of the field. We stopped to hunt a bit. I smelt mouse and followed the trail through the reeds. The scent was about a tail-length away from me when I pounced. "Gotch ya!" I snared happily. I ran to where the group was and gave them all the fresh-kill I caught. I laid two rabbits, three mice, one vole, and a magpie on the forest floor. I grabbed the magpie. I fell asleep dreaming about the future. Will I die? I thought. I should've stayed at camp! I thought. Where its safe.

Something was hurting me! It had sharp claws and broad shoulders. "Who are you?" I asked. He growled and started to go for my neck. All I saw around me were blood and bodies. "Ahhh!" I yowled. Then I woke.

I was panting. "Are you all right? Your sweating! Here, have some fresh-kill," mewed Herbpaw. "Thank you, Herbpaw." I mewed drily. I walked over to the riverbank and started to drink the salty water. Gross, I thought. When I headed back to our resting place, we gathered up our fresh-kill and headed up, through e mountains. I could see an o ocean, and noticed, we're halfway there!

Chapter 14

"Frostpaw! Where are you?" Sorrelflair yowled. Sandpaw was laying in her den, wailing like a kit. Spottedpaw just sat there staring up at the starry night sky.
"Everyone, I will now be making my journey to Highstones to receive my nine lives. Birdflight and Spottedpaw, you will come with me. Owlstride, you will take care of camp well we're away, ok." I nodded and Volehair jumped off the high rock.
"We must find my kit!" Sorrelflair hissed. "No! Your kit has done enough. I'll handle this! Go back to your den or organize a patrol!" Volehair sneered. I turned away and headed over near Owlstride and meowed, "can you go out for herbs?" He nodded and headed through the gorse. I went to find Mousepaw and saw him sharing-tongues with Ashpaw. "Hey, mom." Mousepaw mewed. "Hi, Mousepaw. Whatcha doing?" Sorrelflair growled. Mousepaw looked blank. Sorrelflair snarled at Ashpaw. Ashpaw fled from the clearing and flew through the gorse. Mousepaw growled at his mother, and ran towards the apprentices den. Sorrelflair dipped her head and went to find Larchpaw. Larchpaw was eating a magpie when I showed. "Hey, Sorrelflair!" Larchpaw meowed. "I heard you scared off your own kit!" Larchpaw mewed with a mrrow of laughter. "Ha ha ha. Larchpaw go to your den, now!" Sorrelflair hissed. I stalked off to the fresh-kill pile and grabbed myself a mouse. I sat beside Penguinwing and Fernleaf and we shared the mouse.
By the time Volehair mewed it was already sundown. "It is now time for me to leave for Highstones. Spottedpaw, Birdflight I need you two to accompany me to Highstones. We leave now, Sorrelflair your in charge." The band of cats began to break up. "We need to find Frostpaw!" I yowled. Volehair shook his head and went through the gorse. "Owlstride, may you fetch some herbs, it looks like your supply is nearly empty." He nodded and ran through the gorse and crossed the riverbank. I sent out two patrols. One with Penguinwing, Ashpaw, and Bluepaw. The other with Mousepaw, Sorrowpaw, and myself. I left Fernleaf in charge. Fernleaf guessed that she was in charge because she was the only warrior in the camp. Sorrelflair was excited about going on her first dawn patrol

as deputy. They stopped to hunt near fourtrees. Sorrelflair went after a nice plump starling, while Mousepaw and Sorrowpaw were fighting for a squirrel. I almost tripped over a huge log, when Mousepaw asked me when he'd be a warrior. I told him "not for a few days, Mousepaw, and Volehair told me I could pick names for all of you. I told him that he could say them and he nodded in thanks. I already have a name picked out for you, Mousepaw." He stared at me in bewilderment as he mewed, " Tell me, tell me, tell me, please!" He begged, I shook my head and he stared at the ground, sadly. We kept on hunting and Sorrowpaw and Mousepaw fell asleep on top of each other. I gave a low growl of disgust and walked out of the clearing and went to grab a squirrel from the oak tree. " Wake up!" I yowled. "You guys and all the rest are becoming aprentices today!" They each gave a quick yowl of thanks and ran to camp, me right on their heels.

When the rest of the other patrols came back, Volestar was here waiting from the long walk and back from Highstones. We all heard the usual call from him and sat in the clearing below the high rock. " Wingpaw, Larchpaw, Stringpaw, Featherpaw, Sorrowpaw, Thunderpaw, Ashpaw, and Bluepaw. May you please step foward. Sorrelflair and I have approved you all worthy of your warrior name. Wingpaw, you will mow be known as Wingflight in your mothers sake. Larchpaw, you will now be known as Larchfoot. Stringpaw, you will now be known as Stringfur. Featherpaw, you will be known as Featherstripe. Sorrowpaw, you will be known as Sorrowglide. Thunderpaw, you will be known as Thunderclaw. Mousepaw, you will now be known as Mouseheart. Ashpaw, you will now be known as Ashcloud. Bluepaw, you will now be known as Bluepelt." All the cats, one by one touched noses with Volestar. "This clan meeting I s adjourned." The cats started to chant"Wingflight, Larchfoot, Stringfur, Featherstripe, Sorrowglide, Thunderclaw, Mouseheart, Ashcloud, Bluepelt!" Then, the cats began to brake away.

Featherstripe ran over to Snowkit and asked Fernleaf how he's been. "Good," she spoke. Featherstripe ran to the warriors den and fell asleep next to her sisters, Wingflight and Sorrowglide. "Goodnight, Wingflight, Sorrowglide. Tomorrow's another day."

Chapter 15

I woke up in a small cavern. The air was cool, and Snowpaw was with me. He rubbed his flank along my flank. "Hi, Snowpaw." As we touched muzzles.

"Wake up, Featherstripe! A badger is attacking camp!" Wingflight yowled impatiently. I ran into the clearing and saw the dreadful thing attacking the other cats in the camp. I jumped up at the filthy thing and bit it's ear. The badger soon saw me and claws at my belly. I was to quick and hobbled over it.

"Featherstripe, Mouseheart, and Bluepelt. You three will go on a border patrol for each boundary for our clan." Sorrelflair meowed. I nodded and padded towards the gorse tunnel and sat besides Mouseheart. We waited in silence until Bluepelt came up to us, and the three of us left.

"Go and get Snowpaw!" Sorrelflair ordered Ashcloud. She padded away. Moments later she returned, Snowpaw right on her heels. "Yes, Sorrelflair." Snowpaw mewed. "I need you to go with Ashcloud, your mentor, and go hunting and if you run into the border patrol, tell Featherstripe I need her back at camp." Snowpaw nodded and trailed away with Ashcloud right behind.

"Gotcha!" Snowpaw snarled at his catch, a starling! "Nice catch!" Ashcloud praised. He mumbled agreement and we kept hunting. As we went on, we buried our prey until we turned back. We came back with one starling, three mice, a rabbit, and a magpie. As we headed through they headed through the gorse, Snowpaw remembered he saw Featherstripe. He ran through the forest until he caught up with her sweet scent. "Featherstripe!" He called. As no answer came, he began to pad on. "Featherstripe, there you are!" "What're you doing here, Snowpaw?" Featherstripe mewed. "Your wanted at camp!" Snowpaw meowed. We padded close together as we headed through the gorse. I went to find Volestar and noticed him talking to Fernleaf. I couldn't hear what they were saying but I could tell they were fighting. "My kits are none of your concern!" Fernleaf hissed. "Your kits are making my life harder everyday! Get some sense into them!" Volestar growled. "Once you apologize I'll tell them differently!" Fernleaf hissed. "Then you'll have to wait a

long time!" Volestar hissed. They saw me padding close and Volestar greeted me politely. "Good, your here. Fernleaf, go and eat or sleep, that's an order. Ok. So, I asked you here because I know you love Snowpaw. I need to tell you how bad that is. You've only just became a warrior. Go grab some fresh-kill and grab Thunderclaw for me, thanks." I nodded. I hung my head low as I went to get Thunderclaw. "Volestar needs you, Thunderclaw." I mewed. He nodded thanks and padded away. I went to the fresh-kill pile and grabbed the starling Snowpaw caught. Why did Volestar tell me I couldn't love Snowpaw? I wondered. Why would I love Snowpaw? I wondered. He was handsom but he was an apprentice!

"Goodnight, Owlstride." I mewed as I padded to the warriors den. I closed my eyes and fell asleep.

"Stay alone, don't love. Bad will come. Listen to my warning. Death will show and sadness will appear. Magic will overcome the wounds of life and the faintest whisper will yell. Listen to this warning. I keep to speak listen. Listen." Then, she began to fade away.

I woke early that morning as a rush of cold air entered my fur. I began to stretch and felt someone swaying their tail. "Snowpaw! What are you doing here!" I mewed. "I couldn't sleep," he mewed drowsily. I nodded and laid back down. I closed my eyes and laid there without a sound. "Come on, Featherstripe!" Applepaw meowed. "I wanna go and train, now!" I lifted my head and stood up. " Ok, Applepaw. Let's head out." We walked through the clearing and out the gorse. "Go catch that rabbit, Applepaw." She nodded and stalked off. Slowly, steadily, she stopped! "Ha ha! You can't even catch one rabbit! Your so mouse-brained!" Growled Rosepaw. Applepaw crouched down and stuck her nose in her paws and wrapped her tail around her flank. "Leave me alone." Applepaw mewed. Rosepaw looked on at Applepaw and meowed "as you wish," Featherstripe gave a mrrow of amusement to Rosepaw and Applepaw. "Applepaw, please show me the correct crouch to cetch a starling." Featherstripe meowed. Applepaw did as told and showed the correct crouch. "Look at that river," Applepaw mewed. "Yes it's very nice looking, but they'll be no prey in there until newleaf.

As we walked back to camp, she noticed a brown flash of movement in the bushes. We kept walking and the cat slipped out of my mind.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey, please join here

beneath the high rock for a clan meeting." Volestar yowled. The clan began to gather. "There have been many sightings and scents of badgers. They've been mostly seen in our territory. Featherstripe, Sorrowglide, Sorrelflair, and Thunderclaw. You four will investigate the badger and bring back any information that would help us. Ashcloud, Snowpaw, and Stringfur. I need you three to create new scent- markings for our territory. Fernleaf, Penguinwing, and Bluepelt. You three will go on a hunting patrol. Larchfoot, Spottedfur, and Sandflight. You three will go on a border patrol for all our boundaries. This clan meeting is adjourned!" The cats chosen by Volestar swept through the gorse and went to their duties. I waited for Sorrowglide, Sorrelflair, and Thunderclaw. When they finally showed me could smell the badger. "It's close," I mewed, and we padded on.

Chapter 16

"Ashflower! What's going on!" I yowled. "I smell salt!" She yowled. "Where is it coming from? It's burning my nostrils!" Ashflower hissed. Frostpaw stayed close to the group and slowly stalked after a squirrel. She thought of Featherpaw and Wingpaw. Did they become warriors without me? "Frostpaw! This is the third time I've called your name. Come on!" "Sorry," I mewed. I padded away and followed Ashflower to the patch of reeds by the lake. "This is how you catch fish," Ashflower meowed. She saw a fish a killed it swiftly by swiping it with her paw. "Wow!" I mewed briskly. "Try yourself now, Frostpaw." I nodded and waited for a fish. I saw one near the end of the lake and ran to find it. I quickly padded up to it and swiped it with my paw but missed. I landed awkwardly into the water and let out a yowl of defeat. "Ok, so we need to work on that, come on." Ashflower mewed with a mrrow of laughter. I jumped out of the soggy mud and went to find another fish.

The day went on, Frostpaw and Ashflower kept fishing while the others found other land fresh-kill. When we caught enough fish, we stalked back to the temporary camp and ate while we waited for the others to return.

"Your finally back," I mewed to Herbpaw and Rocksoil. They nodded and we kept watch for the others. When we saw them, we started to keep on with our journey. We brought all the fresh-kill we could carry.

"I smell something funny," Herbpaw scowled. I smelt the air and gave a snort of disgust. "Ew!" I snorted. "What's that?" "I don't know yet, Frostpaw." We kept walking in silence until we came across a big thunderpath. That's what it was! I thought. We saw monsters going fast through. We crept close to the ground and silently brushed our fur along the thunderpath. When we were safely across, I let out a hiss of disapproval. "Those stupid monsters don't know what's coming!" I hissed, and turned my back and started to the forest.

Chapter 17

"How close do you think it is?" I asked. "No one knows, though it's probably in that Reed pile over there." Thunderclaw pointed with his tail to a heep of reeds and snorted. "The scent is getting closer," Sorrelflair mewed. I hissed and followed the patrol. Deep in my throat came a growl as I saw a black shape coming from the reeds. I could hear squealing and saw three little shapes laying behind the adult. "That must be the mother," I mewed. "Hey, Featherstripe," I looked up at Thunderclaw and mewed, "what?" "I can see you have feelings for Snowpaw." I stared at the ground and looked disappointed. I hissed at Thunderclaw and whipped around back toward camp.

A loud yowl startled me as I whipped around. It was Sorrelflair! I ran without stopping to where the badger set was. I heard screeching and saw blood, teeth, and claws going around fiercely. I let out a swift battle cry and pounced on the closest one to me. I scratched at the opponents belly and flew him off his grip. I hissed and jumped back at him. "Don't you ever come back!" I growled low. The mama badger spun around and fled the clearing, her babies hot on her heels.

We headed toward camp and told Volestar what had happened. "Good," he mewed. "We'll tell that at the next gathering." He sent us away with a flick of his tail. I padded to the fresh-kill pile and grabbed myself a magpie. When I had finished that last gulp of prey, I stalked off to the warriors den. I soon fell right asleep, dreaming of catching fish and smelling a thunderpath. I also smelt fear and guilt. I quickly opened my eyes and stretched. "That was a horrible sleep!" I mumbled. I wondered what the dream meant, but I couldn't figure it out. Then it hit me, it was my sister, Frostpaw! I left the warriors den and went to find our father, who was organizing herbs with Birdflight. "Hey dad," I mumbled. He noticed me and gave me a swift nod to come in the den. "What's bothering you, Featherstripe? Is it another attack?" I shrank to a kits level and Owlstride stared at me defiantly. He turned around to get Birdflight, and they sat in front of me. "Did you have a dream or sign from Skyclan?" Birdflight mewed. I nodded and he gave a swift nod to

Owlstride, and he set off to find Volestar. "Tell me about your dream, Featherstripe." Birdflight meowed. I told him about the faint thunderpath scent and the fear and guilt that was swept over her. He nodded and mumbled something I couldn't quite hear. Just then I saw a flash of movement behind the brambles, and Owlstride came in beside Volestar. "Owlstride, Volestar, it seems that Featherstripe has had a dream from Skyclan. They gave her a message of where her sister might be." "Then we must follow it!" Owlstride commanded. Volestar gave him a swift shake of the head and bounded away. "We can't, Owlstride. I'm sorry. Your daughter will have to find her own way home, now." Meowed Volestar. With his head hung low, Owlstride padded out his den. I saw him rush to the fresh-kill pile and take a vole. I went over to him and grabbed a rabbit. It smelt funny but I ate it anyway.

Chapter 18

I laid on the moss in my den, belly lurching. I ate poison and could've died, but I didn't. Skyclan let me live. The rabbit I ate wasn't bad, it was just poisoned by the twolegs and their rubbish! I stayed up all night wanting to lie down next to Wingflight and Sorrowglide! "When will she be OK?" I heard Wingflight ask. I didn't know who he was speaking to, but I did know what they said. "She might not get better for a while, may even be a moon. I'm so sorry, Wingflight." I heard the pawsteps getting lighter on the forest floor as Wingflight left the medicine den.
The moon shined on the forest floor as our patrol padded through the undergrowth towards fourtrees. I barely slept at all the nights before, but Owlstride told me that I was well enough to go to the gathering. I would love to see Frostpaw there. She ran away three or four moons ago. We hadn't found a trace of her yet though.
As soon as we entered fourtrees, the gathering started. Hawkstar started. "The prey is running on our side of the borders. And we have three new warriors, Olivenose, Hollytuft, and Brambleberry!" Yowls went through the crowd until Volestar quieted us down. Hawkstar nodded for Volestar to go "We have been noticing various signs of cats crossing our border! From Darkclan!" Yowls of protest rang through the clearing. " We also have noticed loss of prey! If your clan doesn't pull them selves together, there will be an attack!" He dipped his head to the other leader and she spoke. "Prey is running fine. We ALSO, have noticed Darkclan crossing its border! We are with Preyclan with fighting any patrol or cat that puts even a whisker length on our side!" All the other leaders nodded, but Hawkstar glared at the four leaders. A yowl rang through the clearing from Preyclan, "Skyclan is getting angry!" "This gathering is over!" Volestar yowled. As Volestar was jumping down from the great rock, Hawkstar jumped on him and started to claw him. Volestar had no choice but to fight back. Volestar already had a bloody ear and blood running from his throat. Volestar lay limp in the clearing as Hawkstar stood up and whipped blood from his jaws. "Volestar!" Yowls of agony rang through the clearing, but all cats from Darkclan glared at Volestar and smiled. "I killed him

once! And I will take all his other 8 lives away! I will rule the forest!"

Volestar was limping badly once we got to the camp. He was sent straight to the medicine den. "Something bad is coming..." He whispered. "...Something we will all fear

Chapter 19

Volestar stared blankly into space... He was still recovering from losing a life... He was still limping badly and had a big bruise along his cream colored flank... He ducked his head and limped from his den... "Sorrelflaire! Make patrols! I'm going on a walk..." Volestar stumbled forward and padded out through the gorse tunnel... He walked through the forest and went by the lake.... A big round of wind caught his fur... A yelp startled him.. He spun around and faced baring teeth and glaring eyes... "Hello, Volestar...."